



# The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's **EXCITER**

## GET INVOLVED

- RARS General Membership meeting: Second Tuesday of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night except Saturday @ 8 p.m. on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net: Saturdays @ 8:00 PM on 146.64.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the First Tuesday of each month.



## PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Interested in helping? Visit  
<http://www.rars.org/public-service.php>

frequently for our 2015  
ham public service  
schedule.

Also see page 19 for more info.

## RARS General Meeting

**Topic:** RARS pot luck Holiday party.

Sign up at the [RARS website](#) to  
bring something to share.

**Date:** December 8, 2015

**Time:** Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

*Informal gathering and refreshments from 7 - 7:30 p.m.*

**Where:** Ridge Road Baptist Church. 2011 Ridge Rd., Raleigh  
New HAM / Elmer meeting, 6:00 p.m. before member meeting

Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW, Elmer Coordinator

[Click here for more information.](#)

## President's Message

This will be my final *Message* since my term ends Dec 31. It has been a great year, and I think we accomplished some things. This could not have been done without the work of many people. The Board has been engaged and responsive and the committee chairs have done the behind-the-screens work that many times goes unrecognized. Members have pitched in. A huge "thanks" to all.

I have a friend who worked at Kodak many

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## RARS Officers

### **PRESIDENT**

Murray Merner  
K4MHM  
919-803-7973  
[K4MHM@arrl.net](mailto:K4MHM@arrl.net)

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Tom Lewis  
N4TL  
[n4tl2@yahoo.com](mailto:n4tl2@yahoo.com)

### **SECRETARY**

Bob Chew  
K4YXM  
919.782.5778  
[rlchew@mindspring.com](mailto:rlchew@mindspring.com)

### **TREASURER**

Greg Seamster  
KE4PAX  
919.859.0029  
[ke4pax@arrl.net](mailto:ke4pax@arrl.net)



## The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are \$9 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or on the RARS website ([www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org)).

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## *Exciter*

The Exciter is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at [www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org). Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The Exciter welcomes articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces. The submission deadline for each month's Exciter is the third Friday of the preceding month. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

The views expressed in the Exciter are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

Tom Lewis, N4TL, editor ([editor@rars.org](mailto:editor@rars.org))

## For Your Information

### RARS General Meeting

Date: **Second** Tuesday of each month

Location: Ridge Road Baptist Church 2011  
Ridge Road Raleigh, NC, 27607

Time: People begin arriving at 7 p.m. The meeting officially begins at 7:30 p.m.

### RARS Monthly Dinner

All members and guests are welcome to the monthly (first Tuesday) RARS Supper, 6:30PM, at the Golden Corral Restaurant, 6129 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh. Informal and Dutch, just bring your appetite and best rag to chew. 73, Chuck, K4HF

### RARS Repeaters in Raleigh

146.640 and 444.525

Join us for the nightly RARS net at 8 p.m. on the 146.640 repeater. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS members to the net.

There is a net Listing on the RARS website click here. <http://www.rars.org/nets.php>

### VE Testing

The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing in February, May, August and November at 5:30PM, prior to RARS membership meetings at Ridge Road Baptist Church; the RARSfest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARS-Fest in November; and following RARS license classes. Please bring a photo ID, your original and a copy of your current license, your \$14 exam fee, and any valid CSCEs that prove passing elements beyond that of your current license. Visit [www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org) for more information.

### President's Message continued

years ago. He was a mid-level executive who worked in the future products division as well as other divisions. After many years he left Kodak to lecture at Ohio State University and consulted with banks and insurance companies. I asked him why Kodak is in its current situation. He said they failed to invest enough in the future.

Think of all the computer companies we had 20 years ago – many of them leading edge - and are now nonexistent; think of the early car companies that are not around now; think of people who did not graduate from high school; think of people who failed to save for retirement. They all failed, in part, because they didn't focus on the future.

Clubs are like that too. While the "good old days" are a great memory, they are not the present or the future. The technology of Amateur Radio is moving along at an amazing speed and is at the leading edge. RARS has a sound membership and historical base and I am grateful to those who have gone before us. BUT, RARS must also evolve into the future. We have done some things along that line: online Exciter, dues payment, course registration, RARS member e-mail list. The Board has considered video conferencing for the Board member who cannot attend the

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meeting. Some of our monthly presentations are leading edge. Our courses are now taught using innovative MS PowerPoint instruction.

And yet, we must do more. The electronic technology competition (cell phones and video games) is great, early electronic experience (for kids) is nonexistent, appreciation of science is minimal, electrical engineering graduates are having a tough time finding jobs so there is less interest in the field, families are having less free time, working mothers, long commuting times and kids are having multiple sports, etc. RARS is challenged to become important and relevant now and in the future. Raleigh and the country need Amateur Radio and Amateur Radio in Raleigh needs RARS.

The country has finally recognized that we are severely behind in education – especially STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) subjects. (I recently heard from someone who was interviewing EEs for a job and one of them had never used a meter.) We need to be a serious part of the STEM effort. Parent bonding experiences are diminishing. There are less woodworking, model building, fishing, and car tune up projects. Amateur Ra-

dio (AR) can provide bonding experiences. Thirty years ago, or less, the world did not depend on electronics - now it is totally dependent on electronics and few people know how to change a light switch. AR can alleviate that deficiency. RARS must play its part in attracting and educating people to and about electronics and AR, and continue to make our members aware of the of AR advancements.

RARS: building on the past, heading for the future.

Dennis Keith, NC4DK, will be our new President. He is experienced, a leader (Field Day, RARSfest security), a member of the VE Team and an active and insightful Board member. Most of the Board is returning and there is some "new blood." We are in good hands. I hope you will be at the holiday meeting on Dec 8 to have fun, food (sign-up for food you are bringing at: <http://www.luckypotluck.com/cgi-bin/display/potluck.pl?id=131773791100122176437>) and fellowship and to welcome the new leadership team's installation.

73 and SK,  
Murray, K4MHM  
Amateur Radio, pass it on.

SK = This is my last transmission.

### RARS December Birthdays

|          |        |       |
|----------|--------|-------|
| David    | KB8V   | 12/01 |
| Smitty   | K4ACS  | 12/02 |
| Glenn    | KA4GLN | 12/04 |
| Ronnie   | W4RJF  | 12/06 |
| Bruce    | KC4UQN | 12/09 |
| Virginia | NC4VA  | 12/09 |
| Dale     | KM4IFY | 12/10 |
| Frank    | KA2FWC | 12/12 |
| Jim      | KM4MUX | 12/12 |
| Roger    | KS4VX  | 12/12 |
| Barry    | KM4DMN | 12/14 |
| Conner   | KE4ZNS | 12/15 |
| John     | KM4MMA | 12/16 |
| Charles  | KM4AMT | 12/18 |
| Roger    | W3EZR  | 12/18 |
| Mario    | N4TSV  | 12/25 |
| Mike     | WD4MB  | 12/27 |
| Pam      | KM4AMS | 12/28 |
| Jason    | KK4TLZ | 12/29 |
| Darrell  | W4CX   | 12/29 |
| Gerry    | K4GCJ  | 12/31 |
| Dick     | KD4ISC | 12/31 |

### RARS New Members

|                 |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| Charles Fricano | KM4PFM |
| Sam Brandt      |        |
| Carl Davis      | W8WZ   |
| Roger Gibson    | K4KLK  |
| Mark Beason     | KM4PFO |
| Chris Petty     | KM4PFQ |
| Scott King      | KM4PFN |
| Jon Davidson    | KM4PFL |

### Kids Day 2016

Sunday January 3, 2016 is Kids Day. The ARRL supports this effort to “give an on-air experience to young people and hopefully to foster an interest on getting a license of their own and also to give older hams a chance to share their station and love of Amateur Radio with their children” (or grandchildren). Details can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/kids-day> and a sample survey form and award certificate will be visible for your personal viewing enjoyment at the sign-in table at the December meeting. Check it out.

73 Raymond Lefrancois, NC4OO

### Education Director

The Technician course will start Jan 16. To pre-register or for more information, send an email to:

[Education@rars.org](mailto:Education@rars.org).

73, Murray, K4MHM

## November RARS meeting

### Officer Nominations & Election

The slate was re-reported and there was a nomination from the floor - Dennis Keith for President. There was no opposing candidates and a motion was made to elect all the candidates by acclamation. The motion was seconded and passed.

#### **Elected for a two year term**

President: Dennis Keith NC4DK

Secretary: Bob Chapman NC1X

#### **Elected for a one year term**

ARRL Liaison: Chuck K4HF

At large: Bill Mars AK4BL

At large: Marty Young W4MY

At large: Raymond Lefrancois NC4OO

Field Day chair: Dennis Keith NC4DK

Food Chair: Joanne Mars AK4RJ

Hamfest chair: Ian Hewitt N0IAN

Net Manager: Mary Holtschneider KG4OQA

Public Information Officer: Charles Good KM44AMT

Public Service Chair: John Snellen AI4RT

RARS Exciter editor: Tom Lewis N4TL

RARS NCQP Chair: Marty Young W4MY

RARS Volunteer Exam Coordinators: Liz White KD4CK & Joe White WA4GIR

Repeater Chair: Karl Bowman W4CHX

Trustee for W4DW, W4RNC & N4RAL: Jeff Wittich AC4ZO

Webmaster: Hank Montgomery K4HM

Education Director : Unfilled





November 10, 2016 RARS officers

From Left to Right

Food Service Chair: Joanne Mars (AK4RJ),

ARRL Liaison: Chuck Littlewood (K4HF),

At-Large Director: Raymond Lefrancois (NC4OO),

President & Field Day Chair: Dennis Keith (NC4DK),

At-Large Director: Bill Mars (AK4BL),

FM Repeater Chair: Karl Bowman (W4CHX),

Treasurer: Greg Seamster (KE4PAX),

Vice President & Exciter Editor: Tom Lewis (N4TL)

Other officers were not present for the picture.

## November RARS Show and Tell

RARS had its first show and tell (that I know of) during our November 2015 meeting. Many interesting items were shown by various members.

- 1) Murray Merner (K4MHM), Painter pole mast for a J-pole antenna.
- 2) Bob Starkenburg (W4TTX) 3 element 2 meter beam.
- 3) Tom Lewis (N4TL) CMOS Keyer and sine wave tone generator
- 4) Alan Pitegoff (AB4OZ) various power equipment, antenna relay boxes, rotor controls and antenna supports.
- 5) Carl Davis (W8WZ) 1938 homemade 6L6 Tube transmitter.
- 6) Marty Young (W4MY) 10M 15M 20M K6KV Triplexer and bandpass filters Rated 150 watts.
- 7) Adrian Howell (KM4CSH) Dummy load in a quart paint can that works to 440 MHz.
- 8) Gary Pearce (KN4AQ) 2015 K1N Navassa Island Dxpedition DVD and digital audio box for HF.
- 9) Roger Gibson (K4CLK) Capacitor EST tester from April 2014 QST.
- 10) Glen Whitehouse (K1GW) Stand Alone Software Defined Radio with Softrock and Teensy Micros. This is a joint project between Glen and John Wettroth (KF4EUZ).
- 11) John Wettroth (KF4EUZ), Portable 12/USB Power Box for QRP Operation.



Bob Starkenburg (W4TTX)  
Portable 3 element 2 meter  
beam. Made with aluminum  
arrows and plastic pipe.



## RARS Show and Tell continued

Tom Lewis N4TL CMOS Keyer from 1984 QST and a Sinewave audio oscillator. I purchased parts for this project from Circuit Specialists and they are still around.

<http://www.circuitspecialists.com/>



Alan Pitegoff (AB4OZ) various power equipment, antenna relay boxes, rotor controls and antenna supports. Pictures and examples.



Carl Davis (W8WZ) 1938 homemade 6L6 Tube transmitter.





RARS Show and Tell continued

Marty Young (W4MY)  
10M 15M 20M K6KV Tri-  
plexer and bandpass fil-  
ters Rated 150 watts.



Adrian Howell (KM4CSH) Dummy load in a quart paint can that works to 440 MHz.



Gary Pearce (KN4AQ) 2015 K1N Navassa  
Island Dxpediton DVD.



## RARS Show and Tell continued

Roger Gibson (K4KLK) Capacitor EST tester from April 2014 QST.



Glen Whitehouse (K1GW) Stand Alone Software Defined Radio with Softrock and Teensy Micros. This is a joint project between Glen and John Wettroth (KF4EUZ).



## RARS Show and Tell continued

John Wettroth (KF4EUZ), Portable 12/  
USB Power Box for QRP Operation.



Guests that were present at the November RARS General meeting.

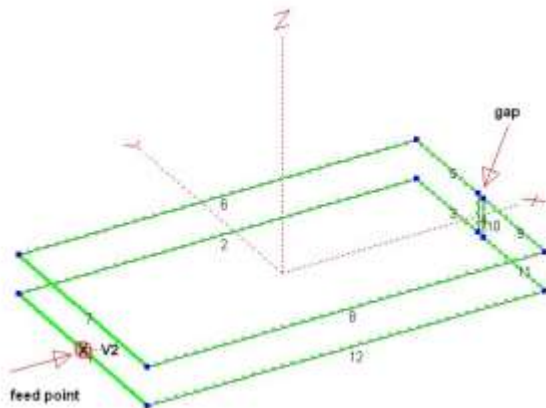
From left to right , (Sorry but I could not read the name),  
Carl Davis (W8WZ), Asif Rizvi (W4EMD), Michael C. Burns,  
John Smith, and Mark Kleinerman (KM4OIZ)

## Vintage Six Meter AM Net

Information from Fred Benson,  
NC4FB

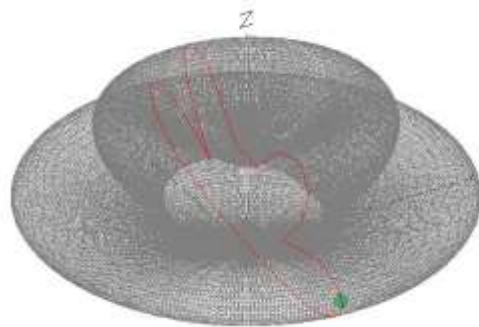
Several RARS members (and a couple of non-members) have formed an informal 6 meter AM group that operates an open net (50.4 MHz AM) on Sunday evenings at 7 PM local time. The group usually has breakfast once or twice a month on Saturday mornings (0900) at the New York Diner in Knightdale. The emphasis of the group is promoting 6 meter AM operation using restored vintage equipment. Charlie Davis, WA3UTC, has restored a number of vintage 6 meter radios used by group members during net meetings. There is 6 meter antenna experimentation in progress to provide compact low cost horizontally polarized omnidirectional antennas (HALO, SQUALO, IL-ZX, etc.) for those interested in participating in the net and needing a 6 meter antenna. The group is considering a restored equipment loaner program for those interested in operating with vintage equipment.

73 Fred, NC4FB



## Experimental Six Meter Omnidirectional Antenna

L. B. Cebik (W4RNL, SK) wrote an article (last updated 04/03/2006) describing an experimental 6 meter omnidirectional antenna. He referred to the antenna as an “interrupted loop – impedance transforming” antenna abbreviated IL-ZX. The antenna is unique because it produces a nearly omnidirectional horizontally polarized radiation pattern with good gain and take-off angle at relatively low heights. Information on that antenna can be found at this website link. <http://www.nc4fb.org/wordpress/w4rnl-il-zx-6-meter-omnidirectional-antenna/>



Pictures copied from  
NC4FB's website

*New HAM / Elmer meeting, 6:00 p.m.*

*before the member meeting*

*Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW, Elmer Coordinator*

*The New Hams meeting is held every month before the regular RARs meeting. We'll try to start by 6pm. We try to address topics in a manner that will be of help to hams in their first year of operation.*

*Tadd / KA2DEW*

*tadd@mac.com*

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## The Tar Heel Scanner/SWL SIG group

The Tar Heel Scanner/SWL SIG group met on November 17th at the Red Hot and Blue restaurant on Falls of Neuse Road in Raleigh. Ten people attended.

This was an open topic meeting where we "went around the table" and took turns discussing current radio news and showed off some of our latest radio and gadget purchases. The group enjoyed the topics and the meeting adjourned at 9:00.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday December 15<sup>th</sup> at the Red Hot and Blue restaurant. This will be our annual Junk Box Giveaway and Magazine Swap and is a very popular meeting.

We'll meet for a meal at 6:30 and the meeting will begin at 7:30 and end at 9:00. For more information and announcements about the upcoming meetings, see the Tar Heel Scanner / SWL SIG Yahoo group

(<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/tarheelscanner/info>).

73, Kelly AE4FG



## Upcoming Contests

For Information on the contest, click on the name

to go to the corresponding Website

December 4-6, [ARRL 160 Meters](#)

December 10-14, [ARRL 10 Meters](#)

January 2-3, [ARRL RTTY Roundup](#)

January 9-10, [NCJ NA QSO Party CW](#)

January 16-17, [NCJ NA QSO Party Phone](#)

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## ARRL Radio Waves

Radio Waves is an on line publication from the ARRL. It has news you can use for license instruction and radio science education. Check it out at this website, <http://www.arrl.org/radio-waves>

### **Future RARS 2016 Meeting Topics**

**January 12, 2016**, Frank Weiss, KY4W,

Putting up a tower and antennas in NC

& a survey on meeting topics.

Titles, topics, and speakers subject to change.

## JARSFest, 2015. ARRL appointees



left to right: Lane WK4WC, North Carolina Evening Net Manager,  
Carl W4EAT, Digital Relay Station,  
Bill N2COP, Roanoke Division Vice Director,  
and Karl W4CHX, North Carolina Section Manager.

Photo by Joanne AK4RJ

## DX Information

WELCOME!

To The Palmyra 2016 DXpedition

Destination: Palmyra Atoll, South Pacific

June 28, 2015, Press Release #2

Lou (N2TU) and Craig (K9CT) previously announced a DXpedition to Palmyra Atoll at the International DX Convention in Visalia, California. Palmyra (KH5) ranks #9 on the Most Wanted List and #2 in Europe.

The Pacific Islands DXpedition Group has been awarded permission to activate Cooper Island in the Palmyra Atoll, 11-26, January 2016.

A team of 12 highly experienced operators and veterans of many DXpeditions has been assembled. Team members include Craig K9CT, Lou N2TU, Jerry WB9Z, Tom ND2T, Mike K9NW, Ralph KØIR, John K6MM, Bob K4UEE, Hal W8HC, Dick W3OA, Jim N9TK, and Glenn WØGJ.

The Team plans to operate five stations, 160 to 6 meters on CW, SSB and Digital modes, using a call sign to be announced at a later date. Antennas dedicated to working Europe will be deployed due to the high need and propagation path difficulty.

Critical to major DXpeditions are the immediate, up-front commitment costs. For instance, most of the equipment (antennas, coax, wire, connectors, and site material)

has already been purchased, tested and shipped to Palmyra. These procurement and shipping costs are a significant portion of the overall DXpedition costs. It is estimated this DXpedition will incur costs of over \$200,000 USD plus individual and personal expenses.

We are pleased we have received support from so many Foundations, Clubs and Individuals already. We are about \$30,000 USD short of our need for the next payment November 1st. Therefore, please donate as soon as possible to help with the upfront costs

Our website, Palmyra2016.org, has a "Donate" link to facilitate your generous contribution. Without your support, this DXpedition would not happen!

Thank you for your support.

Craig, K9CT and Lou, N2TU

DXpedition Co-leaders

N2TU

Lou Dietrich 200 Broadbill Dr. Mooresville, NC 28117

<http://palmyra2016.org/>

# Minutes

## Raleigh Amateur Radio Society Board of Directors Meeting October 20, 2015

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*Present: Bob K4YXM, Chuck K4HF, Raymond NC4OO, Tom N4TL, Dennis NC4DK, Joanne AK4RJ, Bill AK4BL, Murray K4MHM*

1. Call to order (Murray K4MHM): The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm.
2. A quorum was present
3. There were no changes to the agenda.
4. Approval of minutes (Murray K4MHM): The minutes of the September 15<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as corrected.
5. Vice President's report (Tom N4TL): We received \$1.00 in donations at the auction. Next meeting's program is "Show and Tell".
6. Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX): Greg reported via email that RARS had 347 members. If anyone has questions regarding details please contact either Greg KE4PAX or Murray K4MHM.
7. Secretary's report (Bob K4YXM): John Snellen's fiancé died yesterday. Memorial service is Wed.
8. Director reports:
  - a. Public Service Director (John AI4RT): Last event was last Sun.
  - b. Education Director (Murray K4MHM): The seven week Extra course is in progress. The course schedule for next year is: Tech: 1/16, Gen: 2/27, Extra: 4/16, Tech: 8/6 and Gen: 10/1. Extra class is scheduled so there can be one final course using the current question pool.
  - c. Public Information Officer (Charles KM4AMT): No report.
  - d. Immediate Past President (CJ NC4CJ): No report.
  - e. Director-at-Large (Bill AK4BL): No report
  - f. Director-at-Large (Raymond NC4OO): No report.
9. Other reports
  - a. Scouting Coordinator Charles: JOTA was held at the council office. There were 9 scouts (1 left with his participation card) and 10 contacts. There was only one HF contact with the

remaining contacts on UHF/VHF. ***There was a motion to buy eight patches for the scouts at a cost of \$32.*** The motion was seconded and passed. University of Scouting will be Nov 7.

- b. FM Repeater Chair (Karl W4CHX): The 440 machine at Bayleaf Is now operational. There will be approximately \$2,100.00 in Capital expenses required to complete the repeater upgrades. ***There was a motion that the board approve the use of \$400 for a UPS. This is to be a part of the current year's budget.*** This was seconded and passed. ***There was a motion that the board recommends the membership approve an additional \$1800 to the budget for capital expenses. A detailed list of equipment to be purchased will be at the meeting.*** This motion was seconded and passed.
- c. Exciter Chair (Tom N4TL): Reviewed the JOTA pictures he planned to put in the exciter. Deadline for next Exciter is Oct 31.
- d. Food Service Chair (Joanne AK4RJ). Everything is fine.
- e. ARRL liaison Chuck K4HF: It is not yet clear who may be attending RARSfest from HQ.
- f. ARRL NC Section Mgr. (Karl W4CHX): No report.
- g. Webmaster (Hank K4HM): No report.
- h. RARS fest: (vacant): Chuck K4HF has notified the “dealers” regarding our new date and all plan to attend. Bill brought up the possibility of having Maker Faire at RARSfest. It was decided to leave that up to the RARSfest Committee.
- i. Field Day Chair (Dennis NC4DK): We are planning on having the tent again next year.
- j. North Carolina QSO Party (Marty W4MY): No report.
- k. W4DW/W4RNC Trustee (Jeff AC4ZO): No report
- l. Net Manager (Mary KG4OQA): No report
- m. Nominating committee Chuck K4HF: There are two openings on the slate - President and Education Director. Bob Chapman, NC1X, has agreed to be a nominee for Secretary.

#### 10. Old business:

- a. Member Survey: Charles KM4AMT and Raymond NC4OO have are working the details of a survey.
- b. Getting children involved to RARS. Raymond NC4OO reported that the ARRL is having kid's day on January 3<sup>rd</sup> and June 18<sup>th</sup>.
- c. Officer installation process: ***There was a motion that we get RARS badges for the four officers of the club starting 2016. Thereafter we will get badges for incoming officers and past president as necessary.*** The motion was seconded and passed.



- a. Club Logo: Bob K4YXM presented the work of the graphic designer. After some discussion the consensus was that the club logo be the standard patch that Chuck had at the meeting. See picture at right. This is to be used for apparel, on letterheads, where appropriate, web pages and on badges. Joanne will come to the next meeting prepared to make recommendations for procuring apparel.



11. New business:

- a. Chuck brought up the concept of him purchasing, and sharing with RARS, a storage building.

12. Adjournment (Murray K4MHM): The meeting was adjourned at 9:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Chew, K4YXM

## 2016 Hamfest and Conventions

01/09/2016 | Winston-Salem FirstFest

Location: Winston-Salem, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Forsyth Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.w4nc.com>

## 1939 Radio Hams a Pete Smith Specialty film.

Here is a link to a Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer short film.

Its all about "Radio Hams" in 1939.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vBGldf0VjQ4>

73 Tom, N4TL

# MINUTES

## Raleigh Amateur Radio Society General Membership Meeting November 10, 2015

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1. Call to order: Murray K4MHM called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM. There were 45 members in attendance which constituted a quorum.
2. Introduction of new members and visitors.  
New Members: Carl W8WZ, Sam Brandt, John KF4EUZ  
Visitors: Roger K4KLK, Mark Beason, Michael Burns
3. Approval of minutes. The minutes of the general membership meetings of October 13, 2015 were approved as presented.
4. Health and Welfare: No report.
5. Secretary's report (Bob K4YXM) no report
6. Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX): Greg reported that we currently have 363 members. If anyone has questions regarding the report they should contact either Greg KE4PAX or Murray K4MHM.
7. Vice President's report: Next month is the Christmas gathering. Members were invited to bring food. Please go the RARS web site to sign up.
8. Reports and announcements from RARS Board members and others:
  - a. Public Service: No report.
  - b. Education: The Extra class will be completed this Saturday. The Tech class starts 1/16/2016.
  - c. Scouting: Murray K4MHM reported that JOTA was held in October. He, Raymond NC4OO, Charles KM4AMT and Rob KM4LMY attended the Occoneechee Council University of Scouting.
  - d. Repeater Chair: Karl provided an update on the repeaters including the need to spend capital dollars on hardware for linking. Following the repeater discussion and budget discussion there was a motion to appropriate \$2200 for capital expenses for the 2015/2016 fiscal year. The motion was seconded and passed.
9. Election of Board officers and members. The slate provided by the Nominations Committee was reported. The floor was opened for other nominations. Chuck K4HF nominated Dennis Keith NC4DK for the office of President. Dennis consented to the nomination There was a motion to close the nomi-

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nations which passed. There was a motion to accept the slate by acclimation. This passed. The following people were elected.

- a. Elected for a two year term:
  - i. President: Dennis Keith NC4DK
  - ii. Secretary: Bob Chapman NC1X.
  
- b. Elected for a one year term:
  - i. Public Service Director: John Snellen AI4RT
  - ii. Public Information Officer: Charles Good KM4AMT
  - iii. Director at Large: Bill Mars AK4BL
  - iv. Director at Large: Raymond Lefrancois NC4OO
  - v. Director at Large: Marty Young W4MY
  - vi. RARS Exciter editor; Tom Lewis N4TL
  - vii. Repeater chair: Karl Bowman W4CHX
  - viii. RARSfest chair: Ian Hewitt NO1AN
  - ix. Net Manager: Mary Holtschneider KG4OQA
  - x. Trustee for W4DW, W4RNC Jeff Wittich AC4ZO
  - xi. ARRL Liaison: Chuck K4HF
  - xii. Webmaster: Hank Montgomery K4HM
  - xiii. Food Chair: Joanne Mars AK4RJ
  - xiv. RARS NCQP Chair: Marty Young W4MY
  - xv. Field Day chair: Dennis Keith NC4DK
  - xvi. RARS Volunteer Exam Team Leaders: Liz and Joe White KD4CK and WA4GIR

10. Program: Various members of the club presented projects they had been working on.

11. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob K4YXM

RARS Secretary

## RARS Classifieds

Copied from [www.rars.org/classifieds.php](http://www.rars.org/classifieds.php)

The items below were listed within the last 30 days on the RARS website.

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### Alinco Software Defined HF Radio

Posted November 29th, 2015 by: K4RLC

Contact: [k4rlcc@hotmail.com](mailto:k4rlcc@hotmail.com)

Software Defined Radio (SDR) – the Alinco DX-SR9T is Alinco's version of a HF SDR radio. The Alinco DX-SR9T covers 160 to 10 meters in SSB, CW, AM and FM. The transmitter delivers a powerful 100 watts in SSB, CW and FM (40 watts on AM). And three power levels may be selected: 100 watts, 10 watts and a variable QRP setting of 0.1 ~ 2 Watts. The receiver tunes general coverage from 30 kHz to 35 MHz. Other features include: IF shift, 600 memories, band and memory scanning, attenuator, preamp, RIT, XIT and noise blanker. This radio has an I/Q signal output jack on the rear panel supporting SDR capability. Also, operates as a regular HF 160-10 meter all mode radio. -Original, in box. Additional computer control cables included. Only used one weekend. Nice beginner radio, especially for SDR. Paid \$699 (plus \$49.95 for computer cable). Asking \$450.

-Bob K4RLC....Email: [k4rlcc@hotmail.com](mailto:k4rlcc@hotmail.com)

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### For sale DX Engineering speech processor for a Collins KWM-2A

Posted November 2nd, 2015 by: N4TL

Contact: [n4tl2@yahoo.com](mailto:n4tl2@yahoo.com)

DX Engineering speech processor for a Collins KWM-2 or KWM-2A, \$200.

Other offers considered.

Pictures are at this URL.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/97551557@N08/22450172192/in/dateposted-public/>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/97551557@N08/sets/72157660319512801>

73 Tom, N4TL

## RARS Classifieds continued

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Misc. Ham Radio Gear

Posted October 31st, 2015 by: K4HF

Contact: k4hf@arrl.net

Kenwood TM-V71A Mobile Nifty! Mini Manual - \$10.

Heath SA 2040 KW 80-10 Meters Antenna Tuner, like new - \$115.

Ten-Tec Corsair #560 100W HF Transceiver, wkg condition - \$175.

Astron RS20 13.8V, 20A Power Supply. SOLD

Heath HW-16 50W 80,40 & 15 Meters, Crystal Controlled Transceiver working condition, w/manual - \$60.

Two Vibroplex Original Deluxe bugs (semi-automatic keys) new, call.

Contact me by E Mail or (919)872-6555, Thanks, Chuck

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### Islands on the Air

Islands on the Air ([IOTA](#)) celebrated its 50th anniversary as a premier DX programme in July 2014. The last fifty years have seen the programme grow to 2,500 active island chasers and approximately 15,000 more casual participants. It is perhaps second in scale and scope to the DXCC award; indeed, many would argue it is even more challenging than that programme.

Last year the Society's Board identified a number of challenges that the programme faced, not least of which was the need to provide an IT system that would allow online island credit submission akin to Logbook of the World (LoTW). Since that time, a small group of IOTA enthusiasts has been working with the Society to ensure that the IOTA programme continues to grow and play the prominent role that it has done in Amateur Radio DXing and contest activity for the last fifty years.

That work has now come to fruition and we are pleased to announce that a new organisation will be formed, to be called the IOTA Foundation. It will be run by IOTA enthusiasts and will manage the IOTA programme in partnership with the Society. One major task for the new organisation will be to develop a new online credit system that is due to be completed in 2017.

Roger Balister, G3KMA, Bob Barden, MD0CCE, Cezar Trifu, VE3LYC and Johan Willemsen, PA3EXX, are the team who will implement the IT changes and form the IOTA Foundation, with representation from radio amateurs at home and abroad.

73, Col MM0NDX



## **Beware of fake Diamond antennas on-line. Copied from the QRZ website.**

Beware of fake Diamond antennas on-line!\* There are seemingly many bargain price \*Diamond\* antennas on various online stores and auction sites. As the UK's only official importer and distributor, we know how much these antennas cost and when they appear online cheaper than the cost price, you have to ask questions.

\*Waters & Stanton\* (W&S) purchased several models from suppliers online (that do not purchase Diamond products from us) and one such example is shown in our blog posts. Not only does the packaging not look the same, the element section lengths are completely wrong and therefore, performance will NOT be as it should be.

BEWARE of these grey imports, some of the biggest names in Ham Radio retailing in the UK do not source their Diamond products from us and therefore, what you purchase may be suspect. If the UK distributor was Waters & Stanton, you know you have a genuine product, if not, it could be the case your cheap purchase may not deliver the goods.

Here is the link to the QRZ article.

<http://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/beware-of-fake-diamond-antennas-on-line.502258/>

This website has pictures of the fake products. Go to the site and slide down a little to see the pictures.

<http://blog.wsplc.com/>

The Waters & Stanton (W&S) Team.

## **Are your Duracell batteries counterfeit?**

Copied from this website: [thecounterfeitreport.com/product/106/AA---AAA-Batteries.html](http://thecounterfeitreport.com/product/106/AA---AAA-Batteries.html)

Duracell AA and AAA batteries are often counterfeited and sold all over the world.

Duracell carefully guards the reputation of their products and consistent quality of the millions of batteries they supply annually.

Richard K. Willard, Senior Vice President & General Counsel for Gillette advised of the seizure of more than one million counterfeit Duracell batteries;

"Consider for a moment the consequences should the counterfeit batteries wind up in firefighters' flashlights and fail during a major rescue operation? The counterfeiter, a criminal, is the only one who stands to gain."

Tips to identify authentic Duracell Batteries:  
- Duracell uses recycled paper in their packaging. If you look at the back of the package, the cardstock should look dull, or similar to a newspaper. If it's bright white, it's suspect.

- Duracell batteries are packed flush to the bottom of the cardstock. You should be able to stand authentic battery packs upright without them falling.

- Other possible signs of counterfeit batteries include spelling errors on the package or poor picture quality.

- Also, Coppertop batteries may not be the same color